



THE MONTESSORI TIMES

Welcome to the Easter edition of
The Montessori Times from
The Children's House Primary
March 2023

WHAT HAS HAPPENED THIS TERM AT TCHP?

- ❖ Senior Class Christmas plays
- ❖ Whole school celebrated Wellness week
- ❖ AIJS (Association of Independent Junior Schools) Handwriting Competition, Letter Writing Competition & Music Festival
- ❖ Pyjama Day – a fundraiser for UNICEF in Turkey and Syria
- ❖ Whole school celebrated World Book Day
- ❖ 9-12 Class visit to The Orchard Day Care Centre
- ❖ Parent Education Evening with an Alumni Panel
- ❖ Confirmation celebration
- ❖ Open Day – school open to visitors during the working day



Dear Parents

Having embarked on our 70th Anniversary we are delighted with the success of all our events thus far.

Thank you to all of you for contributing in your different ways.

Have a wonderful Easter break and I look forward to seeing you when we all return and as many as possible on the evening of 12th May for a night of community celebration and joy!

Micaela Kuh, Principal



THE CHILDREN'S HOUSE PRIMARY
Montessori School Age 3-12

TCHP 70TH ANNIVERSARY GALA CELEBRATION

We are on the countdown to 12th May – last few tickets remaining – get them on:

[70th Anniversary Gala Celebration of The Children's House Primary | May 12, 2023 - May 13, 2023 \(eventcreate.com\)](#)

Raffle tickets are for sale and our auction site will be online after the Easter break. We have some great prizes! Thank you for raffle ticket sales. All money raised goes back into the school.

Looking forward to a great night!

NEXT TERM'S DATES

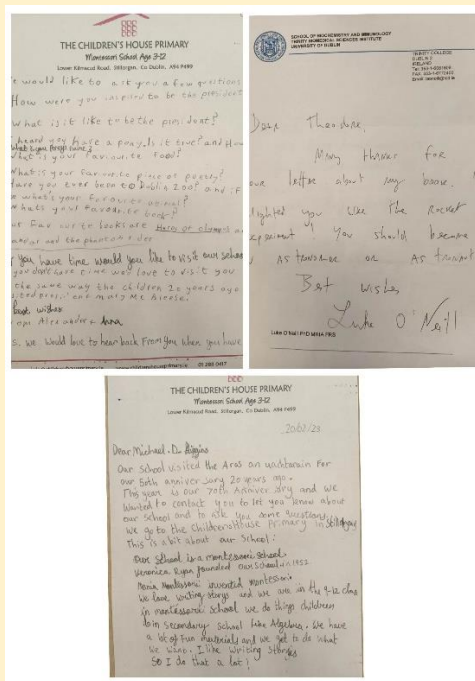
- ❖ **Monday, 17th April** Inservice training pupil free day
- ❖ **Tuesday, 18th April** School resumes
- ❖ **Friday 28th April** Coffee morning hosted by Ms Pigot/ Bascug's Class
- ❖ **Monday, 1st May** Bank Holiday
- ❖ **Friday, 12th May** TCHP 70th Anniversary Gala Celebration
- ❖ **Monday, 5th June** June Bank Holiday
- ❖ **Friday 9th June** Summer concert and graduation (Senior Class) & Sports Day (whole school)
- ❖ **Tuesday, 13th June** Senior Class trip to Clara Lara
- ❖ **Tuesday, 13th June** Ms Hale & Ms Gleeson's Class Teddy Bear's Picnic
- ❖ **Tuesday, 13th June** Ms Pigot, Bascug's Class Fruit & Veg Party
- ❖ **Wednesday, June 14th** School finishes for Senior Class and non-ECCE Junior Class children
- ❖ **Friday, June 30th** School finishes for all

SUMMER HOLS!!

'The exercises of Practical Life are formative activities, a work of adaptation to the environment. Such adaptation to the environment and efficient functioning therein is the very essence of a useful education.'

Maria Montessori

Practical life in the form of letter writing to President Higgins and Dr Luke O'Neill:



VISITORS THIS TERM

- ❖ Student teachers from Bergamo AMI Centre in the 9-12 Class and St Nicholas Montessori Centre in the 6-9 Class
- ❖ Fionnuala Ardee for St. Brigid's Cross making
- ❖ John O'Riley a Shackleton expert giving a presentation about the famous voyage of the 'Endeavour'

TCHP at the OSCARS!!!

In 1974 TCHP was featured in an Oscar nominated film directed by Louis Marcus, an Irish filmmaker. 'Children at Work' was nominated for the Academy Award (Oscar) for the Best Documentary Short Subject at the 46th Academy Awards 1974.

It was filmed in the Middle Room – you might recognise the tables and chairs!!

It's a lovely short film that lasts 10 mins! Our claim to fame!

<https://ifiarchiveplayer.ie/paisti-ag-obair/>

AND ANOTHER SHORT FILM!

By our very own cinematographer/Principal Ms Kuh!

Featuring the 9-12 Class visit to The Orchard Day Care Centre – toe-tapping stuff!

https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fphotos.app.goo.gl%2FP5RJw2daEb1vqd4p7%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR18AW8xKoiCqvkbQZ13j_QRo_h5U1N94KuYKsQ_ALE-NrrA1aERwdXJ0sU&h=AT3eMVo_11Eof9D27ZU16HWaE4VHN5ix4PcFo6ah0XqTK82AY7Pj7g3xA_deeh8KTYfmZJsqGVvpkiYjawnLugRzS0qA-S-4j_Kj7QoUXX5IEccnXsW-luGvVT6qblk7M

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE ON

Tuesday, 18th APRIL

STAFF WILL BE DOING AN IN-SERVICE TRAINING DAY ON MONDAY 17TH APRIL

WHAT IS PRACTICAL LIFE?

In **'The Secret of Childhood'** Dr Maria Montessori called exercises from her Practical Life area 'formative activities' since their purpose is to form the child into an individual that is able to succeed in life. Washing hands, getting dressed, peeling vegetables, cutting, glueing, pouring, drying are all examples of practical life exercises.

"The children love to do these things for themselves and they learn to be careful and precise in their movements". Maria Montessori

Each time a child performs one of these activities, there is much more going on than meets the eye. Even when a child is spending an hour at the easel and producing only lines and squiggles for the umpteenth time in a month, that child is constantly taking in experiential knowledge from their environment, perfecting his fine motor skills and laying a foundation for future learning. Often the greatest gift we can give children is patience. Patience means waiting while we adults learn that hours spent drawing randomly on a chalkboard can suddenly turn into exquisite handwriting or pouring beans from container to container is the



PRACTICAL LIFE INCLUDES:

3-6 Class

- ❖ Needlework
- ❖ Baking/Cooking
- ❖ Window washing
- ❖ Folding Clothes
- ❖ Arts & Crafts
- ❖ Flower Arranging
- ❖ Table setting
- ❖ Boot cleaning
- ❖ Peeling & chopping food
- ❖ Table scrubbing
- ❖ Shelf scrubbing
- ❖ Orange squeezing
- ❖ Watering plants
- ❖ Growing seeds
- ❖ Embroidery
- ❖ Making bird feeders

SENIOR CLASS

- ❖ Organising charity fundraisers
- ❖ Selling raffle tickets
- ❖ Baking/Cooking
- ❖ Bake sales
- ❖ Planning ingredients for shopping

perfect work to do while learning division by observing an older student from afar.

In the same way that the Practical Life exercises support children as individuals in the formative years they continue to support the children as they grow and develop.

In the early years they create the foundation for fine motor skills, independence and concentration. The children then use these skills practically within their own Senior Class environments and as they branch into society and the world they feed their ever growing curiosity, intellect and caring for fellow humans. Practical Life activities, one can therefore say, are the foundations for the child's connection to each other and humanity at large.

Two recent examples that stand out are letters to and from Dr Luke O'Neil and President Higgins inviting him to our 70th celebration and the 9-12 Class organising visits to the Orchard Day Care Centre.

Following the children's interests and needs, here again we 'follow the child' preparing them as they venture into the larger world.



- ❖ Measuring and preparing ingredients
- ❖ Sewing
- ❖ Posters for school
- ❖ Watering plants
- ❖ Gardening
- ❖ Tidying shoes and slippers
- ❖ Serving food for International Projects

9-12 CLASS

- ❖ Shopping for needed items in local shops
- ❖ Keeping a record of purchases and accounts
- ❖ Green School leadership in TCHP
- ❖ Organising 'going out' activities following areas of interest for follow up in the class or as research in an area of interest, eg, History, Art & Nature venues.